

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF INDIANA



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TODD ROKITA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 14, 2023

Dr. Aleesia Johnson
Superintendent, Indianapolis Public Schools
120 E. Walnut Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

RE: Complaints of Noncompliance with Ind. Code ch. 20-26-7.1 (*Floro Torrence Sch. 83; Francis Bellamy Pre-School Center; Francis W. Parker Sch. 56; George Buck Sch. 94; Paul I. Miller Sch. 114; Raymond F. Brandes Sch. 65*)

Dear Superintendent Johnson:

On December 22, 2022, the Office of the Attorney General (the OAG) received a complaint alleging Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) is not in compliance with Indiana Code ch. 20-26-7.1, *Transfers of Vacant School Buildings to Charter Schools*, regarding six (6) IPS schools (the Schools). Specifically, the Schools are: Floro Torrence School 83; Francis Bellamy Pre-School Center; Francis W. Parker School 56; George Buck School 94; Paul I. Miller School 114; and Raymond F. Brandes School 65. The OAG has completed our investigation of these allegations against the Schools and found them to be unsubstantiated.

At this time, the OAG determines that IPS has provided sufficient documentary evidence to show the Schools are currently in use and that IPS intends to use the Schools even after it ceases to use them for classroom instruction. Ind. Code § 20-26-7.1-3(a)(2)(A) requires a school corporation to make the building available if it is no longer in use or vacant, and Ind. Code § 20-26-7.1-3(b)(1)(A) does not require it to comply with the chapter if it intends to renovate the school building for future use by the corporation. As the OAG finds IPS can meet both requirements, we have concluded our investigations of these complaints.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Walls".

John Walls
Chief Counsel, Advisory Division

cc: Nicola Mousdicas,
Indiana Department of Education

Chad Ranney,
Indiana State Board of Education

Ken Pack
General Counsel, Indianapolis Public Schools

Jonathan L. Mayes
Counsel, Bose McKinney & Evans, LLC

Marcie Brown-Carter
Executive Director, Indiana Charter School Network

Enclosures